

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Thursday, March 23, 2006 12: 50 p.m. Room 519 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Philip LaJoy, Chair of the House Standing Committee on Transportation and Senator Jud Gilbert, Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Transportation, called this Joint Meeting of the Committees to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives LaJoy, David Law, Gosselin, Meyer, Casperson, Nitz, Wenke, Moore, Pavlov, Pearce, Anderson, Byrnes, Gleason, Leland, Condino, Tobocman. (16/17)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Kathleen Law. (1/17)

Representative Gosselin made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2006, supported by Representative Meyer. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to accept the minutes as presented.

The following individuals spoke to the Committee regarding the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) Study, the cost and proposed location for the bridge project, and the significance of the crossing to U.S. and Canadian economies:

Ron DeCook representing the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Jim Steele, representing Federal Highway Authority

Mohammed Alghurabi, representing MDOT

Representative Nitz made a motion to excuse absent members, supported by Representative Gosselin. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

Questions and discussion followed.

Cards were submitted by several individuals who indicated a desire to speak at the meeting but were unable to do so due to time restraints:

Pat Holland, representing the Ambassador Bridge

Deb Sumner, representing the Clark Park coalition and as a Detroit resident, in support of the DRIC process

Kathleen Wendler, representing the Southwest Detroit Business Association, in support of the DRIC process

John M. Nagy, representing the Delray Community Council, in support of the DRIC process

Krystal Nagy, representing the Delray Community, in support of the DRIC process

Caddie Nagy, representing the Delray Community, in support of the DRIC process

Richard Huebler, Mayor, City of Allen Park, and representing the Bridge Advisory Committee, in support of the DRIC process

Karen Kavanaugh, representing the Gateway Communities Development, in support of the DRIC study

Representative Steve Tobocman, representing the 12th District of the Michigan House of Representatives, indicating a neutral position

Cards were also submitted by:

Dr. Vincent J. Murray, Ed.D., representing Bagley Housing of Detroit

Ross Clarke and Ronald Delaney, representing the Michigan-Canadian International Bridge Company

Roshani Dantus, representing the Michigan Environmental Council, in opposition

Rhonda Anderson, representing the Sierra Club Environmental Justice Committee, in opposition

Sylvia Elizalde, representing the Delray Community Council

Nancy Sizer, representing herself, in support of the DRIC process

Paul E. Tait, representing the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, in support

Maria Elena Rodriguez, representing Mexicantown Community Development

Matt Prochaska, representing the Michigan Avenue Business Association, in support of the DRIC process

Dolores Leonard, representing the Sierra Club, in support

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair LaJoy declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 2:29 p.m.

Representative Philip LaJoy, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538